

## STA

The heavenly motions are more stated than the terrestrial models, and are both originals and standards. *Holder.*  
These are our measures of length, but I cannot call them standards; for standard measures must be certain and fixed. *Holder on Time.*

When people have brought the question of right and wrong to a false standard, there follows an envious malevolence. *L'Estrange.*

The Romans made those times the standard of their wit, when they subdued the world. *Sprat.*  
From these ancient standards I descend to our own historians. *Pelton.*

When I shall propose the standard whereby I give judgment, any may easily inform himself of the quantity and measure of it. *Woodward.*

The court which used to be the standard of propriety, and correctness of speech, ever since continued the worst school in England for that accomplishment. *Swift.*

First follow nature, and your judgment frame,  
By her just standard which is still the same. *Pope.*

3. That which has been tried by the proper test.  
The English tongue, if refined to a certain standard, perhaps might be fixed for ever. *Swift.*

In comely rank call ev'ry merit forth;  
Imprint on ev'ry act its standard-worth. *Prior.*

4. A settled rate.  
That precise weight and fineness, by law appropriated to the pieces of each denomination, is called the standard. *Lodge.*

The device of King Henry VII. was profound in making farms of a standard, that is, maintained with such a proportion of lands as may breed a subject to live in convenient plenty. *Bacon.*

A standard might be made, under which no horse should be used for draught: this would enlarge the breed of horses. *Temp.*  
By the present standard of the coinage, sixty two shillings is coined out of one pound weight of silver. *Arbutnot.*

5. A standing stem or tree.  
A standard of a damask rose with the root on, was set upright in an earthen pan, full of fair water, half a foot under the water, the standard being more than two foot above it. *Bacon's Natural History.*

Plant fruit of all sorts and standard, mural, or shrubs which lose their leaf. *Evelyn's Kalender.*

In France part of their gardens is laid out for flowers, others for fruits; some standards, some against walls. *Temple.*  
STANDARD-BEARER. *n. f.* [standard and bear.] One who bears a standard or ensign.

They shall be as when a standard-bearer fainteth. *Isa. x. 18.*  
These are the standard-bearers in our contending armies, the dwarfs and squires who carry the impresses of the giants or knights. *Spenser.*

STANDCROP. *n. f.* An herb.

STANDEL. *n. f.* [from stand.] A tree of long standing.

The Drinians were nettled to see the princely standel of their royal oak return with a branch of willows. *Hawel.*

STANDER. *n. f.* [from stand.]  
1. One who stands.  
2. A tree that has stood long.

The young spring was pitifully nipt and over-trodden by very beasts; and also the fairest standers of all were rooted up and cast into the fire. *Ascham's Schoolmaster.*

3. STANDER by. One present; a mere spectator.  
Explain some statute of the land to the standers by. *Hooker.*  
I would not be a stander by to hear  
My sovereign mistress clouded so, without  
My present vengeance taken. *Shakespeare.*

When a gentleman is disposed to swear, it is not for any standers by to curtail his oaths. *Shakespeare's Cymbeline.*

The standers by see clearly this event,  
All parties say, they're sure, yet all dissent.  
The standers by suspected her to be a duchess. *Addison.*

STANDERGRASS. *n. f.* An herb.

STANDING. *part. adj.* [from stand.]  
1. Settled; established.

Standing armies have the place of subjects, and the government depends upon the contented and discontented humours of the soldiers. *Temple.*

Laugh'd all the pow'rs who favour tyranny,  
And all the standing army of the sky.  
Money being looked upon as the standing measure of other commodities, men consider it as a standing measure, though when it has varied its quantity, it is not so. *Locke.*

Such a one, by pretending to distinguish himself from the herd, becomes a standing object of raillery. *Addison.*  
The common standing rules of the gospel are a more powerful means of conviction than any miracle. *Atterbury.*

Great standing miracle that heav'n assign'd!  
'Tis only thinking gives this turn of mind. *Pope.*  
2. Lasting; not transitory.

The landlord had swelled his body to a prodigious size, and

## STA

worked up his complexion to a standing crimson by his zeal. *Addison's Freeholder.*

3. Stagnant; not running.  
He turned the wilderness into a standing water. *Psal. cvii.*  
This made their flowing shrink  
From standing lake to tripping ebb. *Milton.*

4. Placed on feet.  
There's his chamber,  
His standing bed and truckle bed. *Shakespeare.*

STANDING. *n. f.* [from stand.]  
1. Continuance; long possession of an office, character, or place.

Nothing had been more easy than to command a patron of a long standing. *Dryden.*

Although the ancients were of opinion that Egypt was formerly sea; yet this tract of land is as old, and of as long a standing as any upon the continent of Africa. *Woodward.*

I wish your fortune had enabled you to have continued longer in the university, till you were of ten years standing. *Swift.*

2. Station; place to stand in.  
Such ordnance as he brought with him, because it was fitter for service in field than for battery, did only beat down the battlements, and such little standings. *Knales's Hist. of the Turks.*

His coming is in state, I will provide you a good standing to see his entry. *Bacon.*

3. Power to stand.  
I sink in deep mire, where there is no standing. *Psal. lxxix.*

4. Rank; condition.  
How this grace  
Speaks his own standing? what a mental power  
This eye shoots forth? how big imagination  
Moves in this lip. *Shakespeare's Timon of Athens.*

5. Competition; candidness.  
His former standing for a proctor's place, and being disappointed, must prove much displeasing. *Walton.*

STANDISH. *n. f.* [stand and dish.] A case for pen and ink.

A gruffest patriot does not write to secure, but get something: should the government be overturned he has nothing to lose but an old standish. *Addison.*

I bequeath to Dean Swift esq; my large silver standish, consisting of a large silver plate, an ink-pot, and a sand-box. *Swift.*

STANG. *n. f.* [stang, Saxon.] A perch.

These fields were intermingled with woods of half a stang, and the tallest tree appeared to be seven feet high. *Swift.*

STANK. *adj.* Weak; worn out.  
Diggon, I am too stiff and so flank,  
That uneth I may stand any more,  
And how the western wind bloweth fore,  
Beating the withered leaf from the tree. *Spenser.*

STANK. The pretence of sink.  
The fish in the river died, and the river stank. *Exod. vii.*

STANNARY. *adj.* [from stannum, Latin.] Relating to the tinworks.

A steward keepeth his court once every three weeks: they are termed stannary courts of the Latin stannum, and hold plea of action of debt or trespass about white or black tin. *Carew.*

STANZA. *n. f.* [stanza, Ital. stanza, Fr.] A number of lines regularly adjusted to each other; so much of a poem as contains every variation of measure or relation of rhyme. Stanza is originally a room of a house, and came to signify a subdivision of a poem; a staff.

Horace confines himself strictly to one sort of verse or stanza in every ode.

In quatrains, the last line of the stanza is to be considered in the composition of the first. *Dryden.*

Before his sacred name flies ev'ry fault,  
And each exalted stanza teems with thought. *Pope.*

STAPLE. *n. f.* [staple, Fr. staple, Dutch.]  
1. A settled mart; an established emporium.

A staple of romance and lies,  
Falls tears, and real perjuries. *Prior.*

The customs of Alexandria were very great, it having been the staple of the Indian trade. *Arbutnot on Coins.*

Tyre, Alexander the Great sacked, and establishing the staple at Alexandria, made the greatest revolution in trade that ever was known. *Arbutnot.*

2. I know not the meaning in the following passage:  
Henry II. granted liberty of coining to certain abbies, allowing them one staple, and two punchcons at a rate. *Camden.*

STAPLE. *adj.* [from the noun.]  
1. Settled; established in commerce.  
Some English wool, vex'd in a Belgian loom,  
And into cloth of spungy softness made:  
Did into France or colder Denmark roam,  
To ruin with worse war our staple trade. *Dryden.*

2. According to the laws of commerce.  
What needy writer would not solicit to work under such masters, who will take off their ware at their own rates, and trouble not themselves to examine whether it be staple or no? *Swift.*

STAPLE.

## STA

STAR. *n. f.* [stapul, Saxon, a prop.] A loop of iron; a bar bent and driven in at both ends. *Peacham.*

I have seen staples of doors and nails born.  
The silver ring the pull'd, the door reclos'd:  
The bolts, obedient to the filken cord,  
To the strong staple's inmost depth restor'd,  
Secur'd the valves. *Pope's Odyssey.*

STAR. *n. f.* [stereon, Saxon; stere, Dutch.]  
1. One of the luminous bodies that appear in the nocturnal sky.

Then let the pebbles on the hungry beech  
Fillop the stars;  
Murdering impossibility, to make  
What cannot be, slight work. *Shakespeare's Coriolanus.*

When an astronomer uses the word star in its strict sense, it is applied only to the fix stars; but in a large sense it includes the planets. *Watts.*

Hither the Syracusan's art translates  
Heaven's form, the course of things and human fates;  
Th' included spirit serving the star deck'd signs,  
The living work in constant motions winds. *Shakespeare's Twelfth Night.*

As from a cloud his fulgent head,  
And shape star bright, appear'd. *Milton.*

2. The pole-star.  
Well, if you be not turn'd Turk, there is no more failing by the star. *Shakespeare's Much Ado about Nothing.*

3. Configuration of the planets supposed to influence fortune.  
From forth the fatal loins of these two foes,  
A pair of star-cross'd lovers take their life. *Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet.*

We are apt to do amiss, and lay the blame upon our stars or fortune. *L'Estrange.*

4. A mark of reference; an asterisk.  
Remarks worthy of ripe observation, note with a marginal star. *Watts.*

STAR of Bethlehem. *n. f.* [ornithogalum, Latin.] A plant.

The characters are: it hath a lily-flower, composed of six petals, or leaves ranged circularly, whose centre is possessed by the pointal, which afterwards turns to a roundish fruit, which is divided into three cells, and filled with roundish seeds: to which must be added, it hath a bulbous or tuberoso root, in which it differs from spiderwort. *Miller.*

STARAPPLE. *n. f.* A plant.

It hath an open bell-shaped flower, consisting of one leaf, and cut into several segments towards the top; from whose cup arises the pointal, which afterwards becomes a globular or olive-shaped soft fleshy fruit, inclosing a stone of the same shape. This plant grows in the warmest parts of America, where the fruit is eaten by way of desert. It grows to the height of thirty or forty feet, and has a straight smooth stem, regularly beset with branches, which are adorned with leaves of a shining green colour on their upper sides, but of a russet colour underneath: from the setting on of the footstalks of the leaves come out the flowers, which have no great beauty, but are succeeded by the fruit, which is about the size of a large apple, and of the same shape. *Miller.*

STARBOARD. *n. f.* [stereon, Saxon.] Is the right-hand side of the ship, as larboard is the left. *Harvis.*

On shipboard the mariners will not leave their starboard and larboard, because some accounts it gibbish. *Bramb.*

STARCH. *n. f.* [from starch, Teutonic, stiff.] A kind of viscous matter made of flower or potatoes, with which linen is stiffened, and was formerly coloured.

Has he  
Dish'd'd your yellow starch, or laid your doublet  
Was not exactly Frenchified. *Fletcher's Queen of Corinth.*

With starch thin laid on, and the skin well stretched, prepare your ground. *Peacham on Drawing.*

To STARCH. *v. a.* [from the noun.] To stiffen with starch.  
Her goodly countenance I've seen  
Set off with kerchief starch'd and pinners clean. *Gay.*

STARCHAMBER. *n. f.* [camara stellata, Latin.] A kind of criminal court of equity. Now abolished.

'I'll make a starch-chamber matter of it: if he were twenty fir John Falstaff, he shall not abuse Robert Shallow, esq; *Shakespeare's Henry IV. Part II.*

STARCHED. *adj.* [from starch.]  
1. Stiffened with starch.

2. Stiff; precise; formal.

Does the Gospel any where prescribe a starched squeezed countenance, a stiff formal gait, or a singularity of manner? *Swift.*

STARCHER. *n. f.* [from starch.] One whose trade is to starch.

STARCHLY. *adv.* [from starch.] Stiffly; precisely.

STARCHNESS. *n. f.* [from starch.] Stiffness; preciseness.

To STARE. *v. n.* [stare, Saxon; stare, Dutch.]  
1. To look with fixed eyes; to look with wonder, impudence, confidence, stupidity, or horror.

Her modest eyes, abashed to behold  
So many gazers, as on her do stare,  
Upon the lowly ground affixed are. *Spenser.*

And ugly shapes, did nigh the man dismay,  
That, were it not for shame, he would retire. *Fa. Queen.*

STAR.

## STA

Look not big, nor stare not fret:  
I will be master of what is mine own. *Shakespeare's Hamlet.*

They were never satisfied with staring upon their maps,  
Sails, cables, ropes, and tacklings. *Abbot.*

I hear  
The tread of many feet fleeing this way;  
Perhaps my enemies, who come to stare  
At my affliction, and perhaps t' insult. *Milton's Agonistes.*

A satyr that comes staring from the woods,  
Must not at first speak like an orator. *Walker.*

And while he stares around with stupid eyes,  
His brows with berries and his temples dies. *Dryden.*

What do'st thou make a shipboard?  
Art thou of Bethlem's noble college free?  
Stark staring mad, that thou should'st tempt the sea? *Dryden.*

Struggling, and wildly staring on the skies  
With scarce recover'd fight. *Dryden's Æn.*

Trembling the miscreant flood;  
He star'd and roll'd his haggard eyes around. *Dryden.*

Break out in crackling flames to thine thy snare,  
Or hiss a dragon, or a tiger stare. *Dryden's Virgil.*

Why do'st thou not  
Try the virtue of that gorgon face,  
To stare me into statue? *Dryden.*

I was unluckily prevented by the presence of a bear, which, as I approached with my present, threw his eyes in my way, and stared me out of my resolution. *Addison's Guardian.*

The wit at his elbow gave him a touch upon the shoulder, and stared him in the face with so bewitching a grin, that the whistler relaxed his fibres. *Addison.*

Narcissa  
Has paid a tradesman once, to make him stare.  
Gods! shall she ravisher display your hair,  
While the fops envy and the ladies stare. *Pope.*

Through nature and through art she rang'd,  
And gracefully her subject chang'd:  
In vain; her hearers had no share  
In all the spoke, except to stare. *Swift.*

2. To STARE in the face. To be undeniably evident.  
Is it possible for people, without scruple to offend against the law, which they carry about them in indelible characters, and that stares them in the face, whilst they are breaking it? *Lodge.*

3. To stand out.  
Take off all the staring straws and jags in the hive, and make them smooth. *Mortimer's Husbandry.*

STARE. *n. f.* [from the verb.]  
1. Fixed look.

The balls of his broad eyes roll'd in his head,  
And glar'd betwixt a yellow and a red:  
He look'd a lion with a gloomy stare,  
And o'er his eyebrows hung his matted hair. *Dryden.*

2. [Sturnus, Latin.] Starling. A bird.

STAR'ER. *n. f.* [from stare.] One who looks with fixed eyes.

One self-approving hour whole years outweighs  
Of stupid stare, and of loud huzza's. *Pope.*

STAR'FISH. *n. f.* [star and fish.] A fish branching out into several points.

This has a ray of one species of English starfish. *Woodw.*

STARGAZER. *n. f.* [star and gaze.] An astronomer, or astrologer. In contempt.

Let the astrologers, the stargazers, and the monthly prognosticators, stand up and save thee. *Is. xlvii. 13.*

A stargazer, in the height of his celestial observations, stumbled into a ditch. *L'Estrange.*

STARHAWK. *n. f.* [astur, Latin.] A sort of hawk. *Ainsworth.*

STARKE. *adj.* [starc, Saxon; stark, Dutch.]  
1. Stiff; strong; rugged.

His heavy head devoid of careful cark,  
Whose senses all were straight benumbed and stark. *Fa. Qu.*

Many a nobleman lies stark and stiff  
Under the hoofs of vaunting enemies. *Shakespeare's Henry IV. Part II.*

The North is not so stark and cold.  
So soon as this spring is become stark enough, it breaks the case in two, and flings the seed. *Derham's Physico-Theology.*

2. Deep; full.  
Consider the stark security  
The commonwealth is in now; the whole senate  
Sleepy, and dreaming no such violent blow. *Ben. Johnson.*

3. Mere; simple; plain; gross.  
To turn stark fools, and subjects fit  
For sport of boys, and rabble wit. *Hudibras.*

He pronounces the citation stark nonsense. *Collier.*

STARK. *adv.* Is used to intend or augment the signification of a word: as stark mad, mad in the highest degree. It is now little used but in low language.

Then are the best but stark naught; for open suspecting others, comes of secret condemning themselves. *Sidney.*

The fruitful-headed beast, amaz'd  
At flashing beams of that sun-shiny shield,  
Became stark blind, and all his senses doz'd,  
That down he tumbled. *Spenser.*

Men and women go stark naked. *Abbot.*